



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Texas

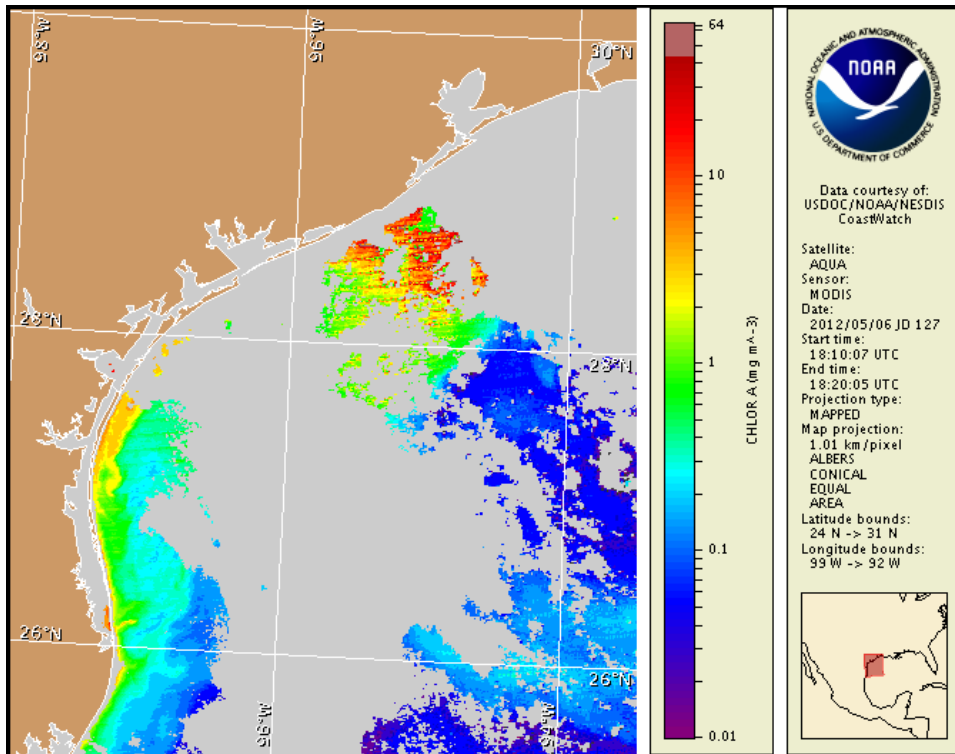
Monday, 07 May 2012

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Monday, April 30, 2012



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from April 27 to May 6 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue (very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HAB-OFS bulletin guide:

http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

Detailed sample information can be obtained through the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department at:

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landwater/water/enviroconcerns/hab/redtide/status.phtml>

To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit the NOAA Harmful Algal Bloom Operational Forecast System bulletin archive:

<http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins.html>

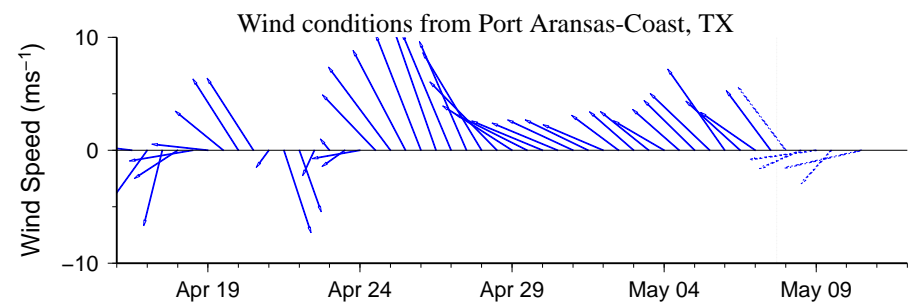
Conditions Report

There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom of *Karenia brevis* (Texas red tide) at the coast in Texas. No impacts are expected alongshore Texas today through Sunday, May 13. There is currently a bloom of the algae *Aureocumbra lagunensis* in the upper Laguna Madre region. This algae does not produce respiratory impacts associated with the Texas red tide caused by *Karenia brevis*, but it may cause discolored water.

Analysis

There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom of *Karenia brevis* at the coast in Texas. Recent MODIS imagery (5/6, shown left) is partially obscured by clouds along- and offshore the Texas coastline from Sabine Pass to the Aransas Pass region. Patches of elevated chlorophyll (2-3 $\mu\text{g/L}$) are visible stretching alongshore from the Aransas Pass region to south of the Rio Grande. A patch of elevated to very high chlorophyll (2 to >20 $\mu\text{g/L}$) is also visible offshore the Freeport region. Elevated chlorophyll is not indicative of the presence of *K. brevis* and is most likely an artifact of clouds in the imagery or the resuspension of benthic chlorophyll and sediments along the coast. Forecast models based on predicted near-surface currents indicate a potential maximum transport of 15 km north from the Port Aransas region from May 6-10.

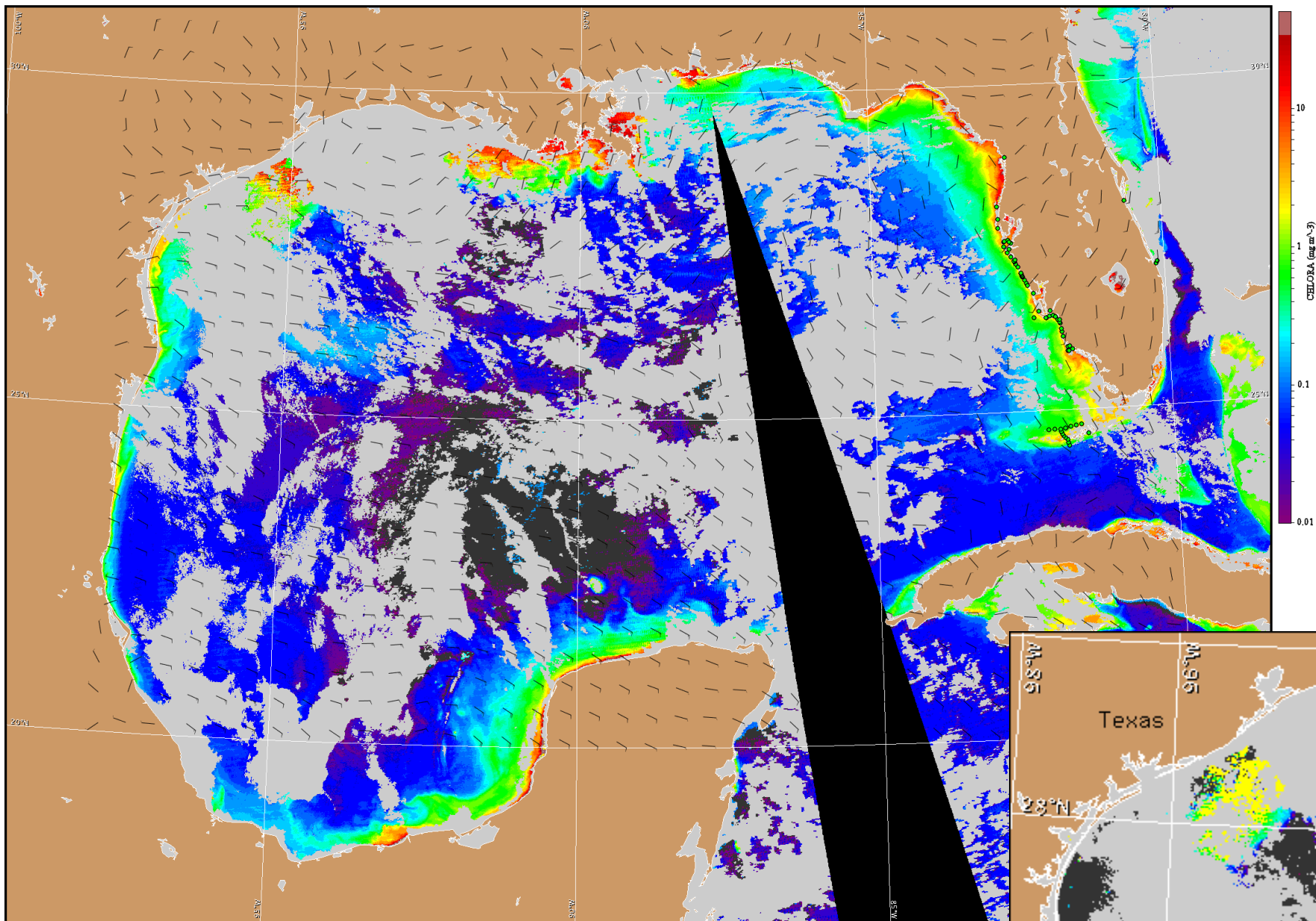
Kavanaugh, Derner



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts. Wind observation and forecast data provided by NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS).

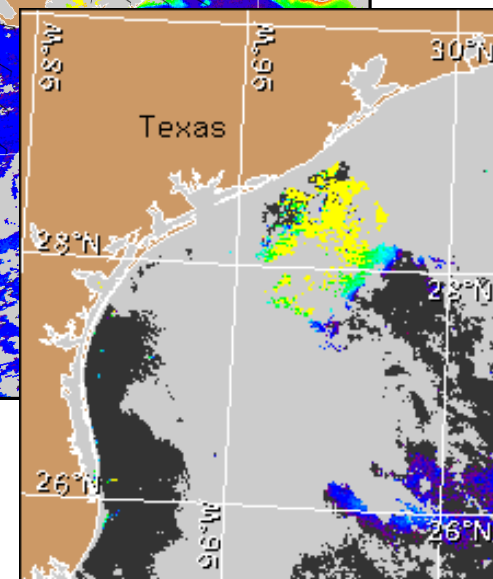
Wind Analysis

Port Aransas: Southeast to east winds (5-15 kn, 3-8 m/s) today through Tuesday. East to northeast winds (10-15 kn, 5-8 m/s) Tuesday night through Thursday. Southeast to east winds (10-15 kn) Thursday night through Friday night.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for May 8, 2012 12Z with cell concentration sampling data from April 27 to May 6 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue(very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HAB-OFS bulletin guide:

http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf



Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).